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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1711**

AF
JRW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Confirmation No: 8222

KAWAZURA et al.

Art Unit: 1711

Serial No. 09/506,443

Examiner: J. Mullis

Filed: February 18, 2000

Attorney Docket No.: 100021-09056

For: RUBBER COMPOSITION

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Mail Stop: AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 9, 2004

Sir:

In reply to the outstanding Office Action dated June 8, 2004, please amend the application as shown on the following pages: